

Maria Rosaria D'Acierno

Music and Medicine from East to West:

Ibn Sīnā - Sergio Piro



rabāba ربابة



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L'AUTRICE

Maria Rosaria D'Acierno is professor of English and English Linguistics at the University of Naples Parthenope. She started as a researcher at Università L'Orientale with publications in particular on bilingualism and multilingualism/multiculturalism. She has studied abroad and as a speaker has participated in many international conferences. She has been a member and a researcher at the Mental Health Department of Scuola Antropologico-Trasformativa held by Prof. Sergio Piro and has completed the five year psychotherapist course at the Mental Health Hospital 'Frullone' in Naples; she has a three year master degree in Clinical Pedagogy attended in Florence. She graduated at Università L'Orientale in "Lingue e Letterature Straniere" (Inglese, Tedesco e Francese), "Filosofia" (Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia) and "Arabo e Urdu" (Facoltà di Studi Islamici). She has publications in the field of linguistics in various areas from the analysis of political language, to that of advertisements, poetry, literary language and many other subjects. She is now considering the linguistic and socio-cultural problems related to immigrant people. With "Irfan Edizioni" she has published *Contrastive Analysis and Translation: Arabic, Italian, English* (2011).

PRESENTAZIONE DEL VOLUME

This research wants to highlight how important and advanced was the eastern world compared to the western civilization. My attention will focus on the philosophical field, but in the Muslim area, philosophy includes a large variety of subjects, and among them medicine and music. Medicine in the Islamic world also was "pluralistic, with various practices serving different needs and sometimes intermingling". Thus, I am going to examine how hospitals in Baghdād (705), in Fes (in the early 8th century), in Cairo (800), in Damascus and Aleppo (1270) were organized, each one having its mental health department, in which psychiatric patients were cured by establishing a solid relationship with their doctors, whose first purpose was to talk to them and consider them as human beings and not broken machines (Israel). It was applied, in fact, for the first time in history, the actual and very satisfying practice of music therapy.

Then, throughout the evaluation of music from Plato to Aristotle, and the well known Arab philosophers, I will analyze the link between medicine and psychology in Medieval Islam, and compare the techniques applied at that time to the methods used nowadays in western psychiatric hospitals. When talking about music within Islamic context, of course, it is necessary to examine its value, its origins, the instruments used, and how it is judged according to religious principles.